

In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

A magnetic recording medium includes an underlayer formed on a substrate, ~~the underlayer made of Cr based substance~~, and a magnetic layer formed by epitaxial growth on the underlayer, ~~. The underlayer is made of Cr based substance, and the magnetic layer is~~ made of Co based magnetic substance. The magnetic layer further includes a plurality of layers, each made of Co based alloy including at least one of oxide and nitride as additional content.